

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for entering system firmware recovery mode for use with a computer system ~~computer system~~ having one or more buttons and a flash memory, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting status of ~~one or more~~ at least two software-detectable buttons at power-on of the computer system;

distinguishing between normal use of the ~~one or more~~ at least two software-detectable buttons and as firmware recovery buttons; and

initiating system firmware recovery mode.

2. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the ~~one or more~~ at least two software-detectable buttons ~~comprise~~ include power and/or sleep buttons.

3. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the detecting step comprises reading a predetermined device register.

4. (Original) The method recited in Claim 3 wherein the predetermined device register comprises a PM1a_CNT register.

5. (Original) The method recited in Claim 3 wherein the predetermined device register comprises a PWR-LVL register.

6. (Original) The method recited in Claim 2 wherein the distinguishing step comprises holding down both the power button and the sleep button at power-on.

7. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 2, wherein the distinguishing step comprises:

selectively holding down the power ~~on~~ or sleep button at power-on for a predetermined time period; and

providing an indication to release the selected button.

8. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the distinguishing step comprises holding down a platform-specific button instead of or in combination with power and sleep buttons at power-on.

9. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the computer system further comprises a disk drive and wherein the initiating step comprises reprogramming the flash memory using the disk drive.

10. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the computer system further comprises an input/output port and wherein the initiating step comprises reprogramming the flash memory using the input/output port.

11. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the computer system further comprises a disk drive and an input/output port and wherein the initiating step comprises reprogramming the flash memory using both the a disk drive and the input/output port.

12. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the distinguishing step comprises simultaneously holding down the ~~one or more~~ at least two software-detectable buttons.

13. (Currently Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the distinguishing step comprises holding down the ~~one or more~~ at least two software-detectable buttons in a predetermined sequence.